

Rutherford County Sheriff's Office

940 New Salem Highway

Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Robert F. Arnold, Sheriff

(615) 898-7770

Procedure for a citizen to follow when making a Formal Complaint concerning an employee of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office or any aspect of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office.

1. Come to the Sheriff's Office at 940 New Salem Highway, Murfreesboro, TN, 37129, or
2. Call the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office at 898-7770 and tell the person answering the phone that you want to make a Complaint, or
3. Write your Complaint out and mail it to Sgt. Nathan Pagel, 940 New Salem Highway, Murfreesboro, TN, 37129, or
4. Go to the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office website at www.rutherfordcountyttn.gov/so and read the Formal Complaint By Citizen site and follow said instructions.

A Rutherford County Sheriff's Office Supervisor will assist you in completing a Complaint against Rutherford County Sheriff's Office personnel. You will be asked to identify yourself and then give specific details about your Complaint. If you choose not to give your name, your Complaint will still be investigated to the fullest possible extent.

Your Complaint will then be investigated. You may be contacted and asked additional questions about your Complaint. At no time during this investigation will said employee, of whom said Complaint was made, be authorized to make any contact with you.

When said Complaint has been investigated, the Sheriff, or his designee, will review said investigation and will respond to you explaining what has been discovered about the matter.

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FORMAL COMPLAINT CONCERNING RUTHERFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PERSONNEL

Date: _____

Complaint is on employee: _____

Person making said Complaint: _____

D.O.B. _____ Driver License No. _____ [State]

SSN: _____ Phone: _____ [Area Code] Number _____ [Ext.]

email: _____

Address: _____
[Number] [Street] [Suffix]

[City] [State/Province] [Zip]

Person taking Complaint: _____
[Name] [Rank] [Badge No.]

[Rev. 10/22/2010]

Important: Please read and understand the statement below before signing this document.

“I swear or affirm that the statements contained in this Complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that in filing a false Complaint in whole or in part could be punishable by law. That such false report is a violation of the Tennessee Code Annotated §39-16-502. I further understand that filing a false report may result in criminal and/or civil action against me.”

[Signature of Complainant]

[Date]

[Time]

[Witness]

Rutherford County Sheriff's Office

Formal Complaint on RCSO Personnel

I, _____, make the following complaint with the understanding that giving a false report by virtue of this statement as a report may result in prosecution against me. Tennessee Code Annotated §39-16-502 prohibits the false reporting of facts or circumstances to Police Officers in an official report.

COMPLAINT

[illegible]

TCA 39-16-502. False reports. –

(a) It is unlawful for any person to:

- (1) Initiate a report or statement to a law enforcement officer concerning an offense or incident within the officer's concern knowing that:
 - (A) The offense or incident reported did not occur;
 - (B) The person has no information relating to the offense or incident reported; or
 - (C) The information relating to the offense reported is false; or
- (2) Make a report or statement in response to a legitimate inquiry by a law enforcement officer concerning a material fact about an offense or incident within the officer's concern, knowing that the report or statement is false and with the intent to obstruct or hinder the officer from:
 - (A) Preventing the offense or incident from occurring or continuing to occur; or
 - (B) Apprehending or locating another person suspected of committing an offense;
- (3) Intentionally initiate or circulate a report of a past, present, or impending bombing, fire or other emergency, knowing that the report is false or baseless and knowing:
 - (A) It will cause action of any sort by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with those emergencies;
 - (B) It will place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
 - (C) It will prevent or interrupt the occupation of any building, place of assembly, form of conveyance, or any other place to which the public has access.

(b) (1) A violation of subdivision (a)(1) or (a)(2) is a Class D felony.

(2) A violation of subdivision(a)(3) is a Class C Felony.
[Acts 1989, ch. 591, §1; 1990, ch. 1030, §28; 1998, ch. 690, §1;
2000, ch. 976, §1; 2002, ch. 849, §6.]